Numb. 63.

The British Apollo,

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.

From **Friday Wedneſday** September 15th. to September 17th. 1708.

Q. NOTE, that whereas we have a vaſt Number of Queſtions more ſent than can be anſwer'd according to our *Preſent Method*, after Quarter Day, we ſhall proceed in one, whereby we ſhall give Anſwers to all worthy of Solution.

Q. *Sirs, Being in diſcourſe with ſome Roman Catholicks, they brought me for a proof, of Souls being purged by the fire of Purgatory, the* 15th Ver. *of the* 3d Chap. *of* St. Paul *to the* Cor. *viz. If any mans work ſhall be Burnt, he ſhall ſuffer Loſs, but he himſelf ſhall be ſaved yet ſo as by fire. Pray, let me have your whole Opinion of it (and you will the better Confirm me in this our Pure and Apoſtolical Church) in your Next Paper.*

A. The Greek Particle Διὰ, which we tranſlate *By*, ſignifies alſo *Out off*. And then the Paſſage is a kind of Proverbial Saying, importing *with much ado*. An Expreſſion Parallel to which we meet with in that excellent Comic Poet *Terence*; who ſays of a certain Perſon, that *cibum ex igne, &c.* he got his victuals out of the fire: That is, he was hard put to it (as we ſay) to get a livelyhood. The meaning therefore of the Apoſtle is, that he ſhall be ſav'd indeed, but with much ado; he ſhall but juſt eſcape the Peril of Eternal Fire. And this eaſy and natural Interpretation is not only Countenanc'd, but Enforc'd from the tenor of the Context.

Q. *I deſire to know the meaning of the* Third Heaven. 2 Cor. 12. 2.

A. Three is a Number frequently made uſe of to denote a Superiority of Degree. Thus *Ter Felix, Thrice Happy*, ſignifies no more than *Very Happy*. And therefore the Third Heaven is deſign'd by the Apoſtle to expreſs the Higheſt Heaven, the place, where the Shekinah, or Divine Preſence diſplays it ſelf to the Bleſſed Angels. Not, that from hence we can gather any thing of the Scituation of Heaven, or a Local Heaven, ſince this may be no more than a condeſcenſive accommodation to Humane Capacity.

Q. *The* Chineſe *give an Account for* 500 *Years (or thereabouts) before Our Bible. Now, if Their Account be true, Ours muſt be falſe, which I am well ſatisfied in my ſelf is not, but that won't do in an Argument; ſo I beg the favour of you (Gentlemen) to help me out.*

A. The Divine Providence, for the Confirmation of Believers and the Conviction of Infidels, has ſo Wiſely, and (give us leave to add) ſo Mercifully, contriv'd the matter, that the *Chineſe* Hiſtorians ſtand Self-condemn'd, and are Confuted by Themſelves. And this is obſervable in remarkable particulars.

1. They ſpeak of a memorable Conjunction of the 5 Planets in one of their Signs, while the Sun and Moon were alſo in Conjunction, during the Reign of their fifth Monarch *Chuen hio*. Which Obſervation a celebrated Aſtronomer, by a nice Calculation, has, without danger of being Objected to, plac'd about 500 Years *Later*, than the Tenor of their Relations does infer.

2. They ſay alſo, that in the time of their Seventh Emperor *Yao*, the Winter Solſtice was about 50 degrees from the place, where it was a few Years ago. Whence Aſtronomers acquaint us, that the Phænomenon, (if the Obſervation was accurately taken) muſt have neceſſarily occur'd near the forementiond number of Years Later than as repreſented in Their Chronology.

We inſiſt not on the argument drawn from the common Period of Humane Life in the reigns of their Early Monarchs, ſince that depends upon a Compariſon with Scripture Hiſtory, whereas we are Confuting Thoſe, who deny the Authority of the Bible. And indeed we have no occaſion for the Argument, when furniſh'd with two ſo Indiſputable, as thoſe above.

To point out the original of the *Chineſe* miſtake, it is a more than probable Hypotheſis, that They (as did alſo the Egyptians) reckon'd ſome Ancient *Collateral* Princes in a ſucceſſive Line. For there are remarkable Paſſages in their Hiſtories, that Evince, not only, that this Obſervation of a great Chronologer has a probable foundation, but alſo, that it is impoſſible it ſhou'd be otherwiſe.

And now, ſince thoſe Oppoſers of Our Accounts do yet plead For us, and our very Enemies (tho' Unwillingly, nay perhaps Unknowingly) *are at Peace with us*, ſhall we not Believe the Scriptures with a Steedy, an Unſhaken mind; and learn, for the time to come, not to be ſtartled at ſeeming difficulties.

Q. *Was the World created with the Omnipotence of God?*

A. The Queriſt in his Preface to the Queſtion is very urgent for a Solution, and puts us in mind, that he ſent it before in Latin; but we beg leave to ac-

quaint him, that it is Unintelligible both in Engliſh and Latin. We wou'd adviſe him to try his Skill in a third Language, and ſee, whether he can have better luck in that. Does he mean, whether the World was created *By* God's Omnipotence? We wonder that a Latiniſt ſhou'd offer at a Doubt? Does he intend the word *With* for a Conjunctive Particle, and therefore ask, whether God's Omnipotence was Created at the ſame time with the World? We hope, he don't look upon God's Omnipotence as a Creature.

Q. *Whether Water, if drank from Youth, wou'd not be more agreeable to the Man than any Artificial Liquors.*

A. The Drinking of Water may be beneficial to ſome Conſtitutions, but deſtructive to others; and more eſpecially to thoſe, who inhabit cold Countries; nor do we find it agreeable in the Hotteſt Countries; for there the Tranſpirations are ſo great, that the ſtrongeſt Liquors are ſcarcely powerful enough to ſupply the Great Expence of Spirits.

Q. *Gentlemen, In your Paper* Number 51 *you anſwer, that Cats falling on their Feet, when thrown from a high Place, is due to their Tail, wherewith they fan the Air, whereby the ſwiftneſs of their deſcent is ſo far retarded, that they are enabled to prepare themſelves to fall ſo.*

Pray then, why do not other Creatures having as large Tails make the ſame advantage of them, as namely a Fox, which is every whit as cunning as a Cat, and has much a larger Tail to fan the Air withal.

A. Becauſe other Creatures having as large Tails are not Accuſtom'd to ſuch Lofty Paths as running over the Tops of Houſes, or leaping from High places, as Cats, and therefore Nature thought it needleſs to teach them the uſe of their Tails in ſuch a Manner.

Q. *What is the Occaſion of thoſe Dartings, I ſometimes find in my Blood, which affect me with a Chillyneſs and ſudden Startings?*

A. This Diſorder does probably ariſe from the Evil diſpoſition of your Blood, the ſerous part thereof having Contracted ſuch an Acidity, as may prick and twitch the Nervous Parts, and cauſe that Starting, Chillyneſs, or ſenſe of Cold.

Q. *Pray Gentlemen, What is a Rhinoceros?*

A. A ſort of Creature ſtrangely different from every other, having one horn, and ſhap'd not much unlike an Elephant, all cover'd with an hard and ſcaly Subſtance, proof againſt a Piſtol Bullet, and divided like a Tortoiſe into ſeveral odd Partitions; but 'tis needleſs to enlarge upon this Subject, ſince all Perſons may at preſent ſee in Town the *Skelleton* and *Hide* of one of the fineſt, and the only *Female* ever known; a Sight that's truly worth the obſervation of a Man of Knowledge in the Works of Nature.

Q. *Pray Gentlemen, give your advice, how we ſhall pay Money, before we have it.*

A. By your *Note*, or *Bond*, for perhaps your *word* will ſcarce be taken for a *Farthing*.

Q. *Gentlemen, Pray, what is the reaſon, that a Horſe is ſo affrighted at the ſight of an Aſs?*

A. Perhaps your Horſe might throw You and run away upon't, and You might fancy it proceeded from a Fright; but if ſo, we believe it rather from the unuſual, uncouth Poſture he ſaw you in, than meerly from the ſight of an Aſs.

Q. *Gentlemen, Happening to caſt my Eye upon the Concluſion of a Book Entitled,* "The Hazard of a "Death-Bed Repentance further Argued, &c. (*Suppos'd to be written by* Dunton) *I took Notice of an Advertiſement at the Cloſe of it, wherein the Author (after the manner of a baffled Diſputant ſupplying his want of Argument with Railing) aſſerts,* "That 'tis "well known to the whole Town, that the Authors "of the *Britiſh Apollo* are a Club of Silly "Fellows, who write for Bread. *Now tho' I, and I ſuppoſe moſt of your other Subſcribers, are ſufficiently convinc'd of the falſity of that Aſperſion, yet, for the farther ſatisfaction of the Publick, I beg of you (in your next) to give a full and final Anſwer to ſo Malicious and Injurious an Inſinuation. Yours,* &c.

A. Hah, hah, ha! Poor Dunton! To pretend to tell the Town, what he ſays they all know already; but had he a Grain of Senſe, that is to ſay, had he not been *Dunton*, He muſt have known that to go through ſuch a Chargeable Undertaking, before we ſhou'd receive a Farthing of Subſcribers, would coſt much more Money than wou'd be requir'd to reſtore a Broken Bookſeller, tho' not one of us drank a Glaſs of Wine the leſs for it. But we thought by this time, to have ſeen him lead his *Eminent Bookſeller* and *Eminent Man of Learning*, like *Valentine* and *Orſon* upon the Stage: Perhaps they are not ſufficiently *Duntoniz'd*, to riſque what Reputation they have left, in being known to the World, to be of his Acquaintance; but the Town may looſe much *Diverſion* (by the Diſappointment) prepar'd for that expected Adventure: Let him Reflect on us under what Names or Titles he pleaſes, we have one Word in Return, which compriſes more *Satyr* in it, than all his Envy and Malice can exert, that is, He is a *Dunton*, a *Very Dunton*, which from henceforwards may grow a *Proverb* for all ſuch; for whom our Language wants a Name ſufficiently Diſgraceful to *Diſtinguiſh* them by.

We receiv'd a Letter Sign'd by 4 Perſons, demanding a ſpeedy Anſwer to a Queſtion on the Penalty of looſing their Subſcriptions and the Money due to us: To which we anſwer; we have above 100 Queſtions which came before yours, for which we have not Room yet. As to your Threats, you may leave us when you will, we have 5 times your Number in a Day to ſupply your Room: If we know not how to get our due, we muſt be content to looſe it, but your Reputation muſt be very ſmall, if the Forfeiture of *that*, be not a greater loſs to you, than our Money is to Us.

POEMS.

Q. *With bauling I'm weary,*
For Anſwer to a Query,
Which lately I ſent in Heroick;
Apollo's a Coxcomb,
Oh! How I cou'd box him,
For thinking I'll practice the Stoick.
Since Doggrel do's pleaſe ye,
In that I addreſs ye,
Hyperion or Beelzebub either,
Both reign over Flies,
And both rule in the Skies,
In Windy and Sultry Weather.
Pray, tell us, how far,
'Tis to your Bright Car,
Sublime above Tempeſt and Thunder,
That we may gueſs thence,
How long Wit and Senſe
Are coming down to the World under?
A Queſtion ſo eaſie,
I hope won't diſpleaſe ye,

Reſolve

Reſolve it as ſoon as you can, Sir,
And till that long Seaſon,
Tho 'tis ſcarcely Reaſon,
I'll patiently wait for an Anſwer.
A. Your Queſtion we'll Anſwer,
Tho' we never can, Sir,
Deviſe what the Profit will be;
If Wit in Progreſs,
Be more time or leſs,
What's Wit, or its Province to Thee.
Six Millions, three Hundred,
On which had you Blunder'd,
You thirty four Thouſand beſide,
Wou'd find to enſue,
Beſides forty two,
Of Miles the Italians do ride.
Thus far is the Diſtance,
From Sol's bright Exiſtence,
But how long Wit's Paſſage is found?
In a Moment 'twill ſmile,
Upon Fertil Soil,
But never on ſuch Barren Ground.
Q. *Of all Mankind moſt wretched, I'm the Man,*
Born down by Fate, and overwhelm'd with Grief,
And void of all Redreſs, &c.
A. Whether in ſenſe of Humane Miſeries,
Or Melancholy Blood, the Evil lies,
See *Numb.* 54.
Q. *To St.* Barth. Cloyſters *I often have gone,*
With a Mind very willing,
My Pockets of filling;
But curſe of Ill Luck!
On Tueſday was ſtuck,
And to you (bright Apollo*) I make my moan;*
My Pockets are Empty,
And my Brains not plenty
Enough, to diſcover,
The means to recover,
And therefore adviſe, or elſe I'm undone;
If my Friends ſhould e'er hear
Of my miſchance; I fear,
I ſhall never receive a full pardon;
(Nor dare I make ſuit
For a farther recruit)
But if you will lend
Ten Pounds to your Friend,
It ſhall be repaid
W' Intereſt; ben't afraid,
Next Quarter Day to one ſingle Farthing.
A. The Sum is ſo trivial we will not pretend,
To make it an Inſtance,
Of Friendly Aſſiſtance,
Which if it were done,
As ſoon might be gone,
We'll ſhew our ſelves therefore a much better Friend;
In lending Advice,
Of three times that Price,
So Cordial and Sound,
It may ſave thirty Pound,
And what's ſav'd, will ſo much be got in the End.
When you find then the Itch
Of Gaming, bewitch;
And begin Sir to get an Aſcendant,
Full ten Hours Faſt,
If it holds to the laſt,
Repeat it ten more,
And ſo to fourſcore;
'Twill ſave we aſſure ye,
Much Money, and Cure ye,
Nay in a few Days You will Mend on't.
Q. *I find by your humming,*
The Lady's forth coming,
And ready you are to beſtow her;
But yet, Sirs, I find,
You're ſomething behind,
Cauſe you want to be taught how to know her.
You ought not to prate
About my Eſtate,
Unleſs you'd be Matchmakers made;
And I think, Sirs, that Phæbus,
Ex Omnibus Rebus,
Shou'd never take that for a Trade.
When the Lady I ſee,
Who knows what may be,
Both Perſon and 'State too may ſuite Her;
Then what need we enter
(Since there is the Center)
On any preceeding Diſpute Sir?
Then tell me when and where, Apollo;
To ſee this Lady I ſhall follow,
She need not fear to incur diſaſter,
While She delights in her Philaſter.
A. We find by your Matter,
You long to be at Her,
And ſince we receiv'd your Love-Letter,
We've found what She is,
Both for Portion and Phiz,
And ſo can diſcribe Her much better.
She's Blooming like May,
As Bright as the Day,
And Bleſt is the Swain that can Catch Her;
Now, pray Sir, Diſcover,
What are you for a Lover:
And what's in your Perſon to Match Her?
Her Fortune is found,
Full ten Thouſand Pound;
Then tell, e'er you more Embaraſs us,
Where lies your Eſtate,
Beſides in your Pate,
And on the fam'd Hill of *Parnaſſus.*
For 'till we know more of Philaſter,
Beſides the worth of Poetaſter,
Or Brain-ſick Amorous Moon-Calf,
We ſhall not move on his Behalf.

To

To the Authors of the British Apollo.

WOu'd but *Apollo*, for this once, Inſpire
A grateful Breaſt, with his prolific Fire;
Then wond'rous Youths, Your Vertues ſhou'd be (ſhown,
In Verſe, and Numbers, equal to Your own:
But *Sapho*'s Muſe attempts in vain to fly,
To the fork'd Top of *Manly Energy*.
Reſenting *Phœbus*, to Revenge the Wrong
Coy *Daphne* did to his immortal *Song*,
Has laid on *Womankind* this heavy Curſe,
That *Wit* ſhall ever, ever fly from us.
Hail! happy *Bards*! to better Fortune born,
Whom ev'ry *Muſe*, and ev'ry *Grace* adorn:
Nature, and *Art*, ſeem joyntly to agree,
To make You Lords o' th' *Sacred Treaſury*;
And You like kind *Diſpenſers* of their Store,
Ne'er Hoard, but freely give it to the Poor.
To ev'ry *wounded Soul* that makes her Moan,
You *Balm* infuſe, and ſet the *broken Bone*.
The *Atheiſt* feels Compunction, and Reſigns
His impious Tenets; *Deiſm* too declines:
They own an *Inſpiration*, from Your Lines.
To You the *Lover Sighs*, nor Sighs in Vain;
Your kind *Reply* Alleviates all his Pain.
Your *inexhauſted Store*, freſh Torrents yeild,
With *Britiſh vet'ran Troops* You keep the Feild,
Reaſon Commands and ev'ry *Paſſion*'s quell'd.

Sachariſſa.

SIR,

THE Letters from Bruſſells Sept. 20. advile, that the deſigns of Count de la Mothe have ſomewhat alarm'd that City: That General on the 18th Inſtant came with part of his Forces to the height of Diegom, and another Party advanc'd above Anderlecht, while ſome Troops came to the Canal and ruin'd one of the Sluces at the 3 Fountains, whereby the ſaid Canal is render'd unnavigable, ſo the Council of State of thoſe Provinces, and the Deputies of the States General met immediately to concert neceſſary meaſures for the Defence of that City; and to prevent any diſturbance among the Common People the Magiſtrates were order'd to take care, that all Proviſions ſhou'd be ſold at the ſame Price they were before; That all poſſible diligence will be uſed to repair the Sluce ruin'd by the Enemy, the Navagation of the Canal being abſolutely Neceſſary. That Major General Murray arrived there yeſterday from Flanders, with the Regiment of Holſtein-Norburgh, being followed by three Others that are daily expected there, ſo that 'tis hop'd the Deſigns of the Enemies are prevented. That General Pascal the Governor has, on this occaſion, given ſignal Proofs of his great Capacity and Affection to the ſervice of King Charles, and the High Allies. That juſt now Advice was brought, that the Count de la Mothe is return'd towards Ghent, having ſent back the Detachment of 12 Batallions to the French Army under the Command of Mr. de Mortagne; that 'tis thought the ſudden going off of Count de la Mothe was occaſioned by the Enemy's having intelligence that the Allies have ſome Deſign in hand againſt ſome place in Flanders. 'Tis likewiſe adviſ'd that the Enemy's Army lies between Tournay and Oudenarde. The Advices from the Camp before Lille Sept. 17 are, that on the 15th Inſtant at Night a Mine was ſprung to blow up the wall of the Covered-way over againſt the double Tenaile, which had the deſir'd ſucceſs, ſo that now they will fill up the Ditch, in order to ſtorm the Tenaile on the 19th. That the Saps and Mines in the Covered-way, which is juſt over againſt the Town were alſo carried on with ſucceſs. The 16th. all things were prepar'd for erecting a New Battery on the firſt Parallel before the Covered-way, at the attack of the Left, in order to ruin at once all the reſt of the Defences of the Ravelin and Courtine, and to make the Entrance into the great Breach eaſy and practicable for a General Storm. Laſt Night our Men were employ'd in filling the Ditch of the Double Tenaile, which lies on the lower Deule; but the Enemy found means by a great quantity of Pitch and Tar and other combuſtible ſtuff to burn moſt of our Faſcines and Gabions, that were brought from the Bridge to the attack of the Director des Roques and about 20 Men were killed or wounded. To day all things are preparing again to fill up the Ditch on the attack on the Right, in order to ſtorm this Evevening the Tenailes both on that ſide and on the Left, for which purpoſe the Grenadiers are in a readineſs. That to Morrow the great Battery will be ready to fire, and 'tis hop'd we ſhall be Maſters of the Town in a few days. Which concludes this from Yours, *&c.*

Any Perſons upon Directing their Letters (Superſcrib'd for the *Britiſh Apollo*, to Mr. *Keeble* in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, Mr. *Carter* at the *Green Dragon* in St. *Paul*'s Church-Yard, Mr. *Bickerton* at the *Roſe and Crown* in *Little Britain* Bookſellers, or to the Printer hereof, may have this Paper brought to their Houſes (in the City or Suburbs) at 2 *s. per* Quarter, and the Monthly Papers at 6 *d. per* Quarter more: Thoſe who come within the Quarter, to have proportional Deductions at the End. Alſo Books of Guards neatly Bound, to keep them in, at 2 *s.* a-piece. Likewiſe whole Sets from the Beginning, paying only 3 *s.* 6 *d.* for all before Midſummer, and the reſt to go; at which Places Advertiſements are taken in at 2 *s.* 6 *d* each.

Note, That they who live in the Country may appoint a Friend in Town to take them in for them, or order ſome Inn-Keeper to pay for them Quarterly. For we cannot depend on the Payment of Carriers, ſince they come not in on thoſe hours as our Servants can meet with them in their Walks.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the *Subſcriptions* for *Mr. Hill*'s Preſent State of *Æthiopia*, &c. being very near compleated, he will ſhortly ſhut the Books, not having printed more than are already almoſt all ſubſcribed for; if therefore *any Gentleman*, who has not paid his *firſt Subſcription Money* to the *Author*, or where he was directed by his laſt Propoſals, believes himſelf intitled to a Book, *as a Subſcriber*, this Advertiſement is publiſh'd to undeceive him; no *Bookſeller whatſoever*, nor any other Perſon than *Mr. Mayo* Stationer at the Printing-Preſs in *Fleet-ſtreet*, being authoriz'd to take Subſcriptions; nor will the *Author* give a Book to any Man, who does not bring a Receipt under his hand, which all who legally Subſcribe, receive *in courſe*, at payment of their firſt *half Guinea*. All Gentlemen therefore, who have ſubſcrib'd *elſewhere* may come to the above-nam'd *Mr. Mayo*'s, and ſee whether their Names are enter'd in the Liſt; if not, they may aſſure themſelves the *Author* does not look upon them as *Subſcribers* to his Undertaking; and ſince his Deſign was for a *Publick Good*, not *Private Profit*, he has choſe this Method, that he may the better ſee Juſtice done to all *Subſcribers*.

Printed for the Authors, by *J. Mayo*, at the *Printing-Preſs*, againſt *Water-Lane* in *Fleet-ſtreet*. Where Advertiſements are Taken in.